



PUBLIC NOTICE

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**PUBLIC SAFETY AND HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU APPROVES
REGION 8 (NEW YORK METROPOLITAN AREA), REGION 10 (GEORGIA), REGION 20
(DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, MARYLAND AND NORTHERN VIRGINIA), REGION 32
(NORTH DAKOTA) AND REGION 51 (TEXAS-HOUSTON), NPSPAC REGIONAL PLANNING
COMMITTEES' STREAMLINED AMENDMENTS TO REFLECT 800 MHZ BAND
RECONFIGURATION IN THE 806-809/851-854 MHZ BAND**

**WT Docket No. 02-55, Gen. Docket Nos. 88-476, 89-452, 90-7 and
PR Docket Nos. 92-189, 93-77**

Introduction. By this *Public Notice*, the Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau (Bureau) approves the National Public Safety Planning Advisory Committee (NPSPAC) streamlined regional plan amendments (Streamlined Amendments) reflecting the new 806-809/851-854 MHz band allotments submitted by the Region 8 (New York Metropolitan Area),¹ Region 10 (Georgia),² Region 20 (District of Columbia, Maryland and Northern Virginia),³ Region 32 (North Dakota)⁴ and Region 51 (Texas-Houston)⁵ Regional Planning Committees (RPCs).

¹ See Letter from Lieutenant Anthony Melia, Chair, Region 8 (New York Metropolitan Area) 800 MHz Regional Planning Committee to David Furth, Acting Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, WT Docket No. 02-55, Gen. Docket No. 88-476 (filed Apr. 20, 2009) (submitting Request for Extension of Time to File Streamlined Plan Amendment); *see also* Letter from Lieutenant Anthony Melia, Chair, Region 8 (New York Metropolitan Area) 800 MHz Regional Planning Committee to David Furth, Acting Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, WT Docket No. 02-55, Gen. Docket No. 88-476 (filed Apr. 20, 2009) (submitting Streamlined Plan Amendment).

² See Letter from Jim Molloy, Chair, Region 10 (Georgia) Regional Planning Committee to David Furth, Acting Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, WT Docket No. 02-55, PR Docket No. 92-189 (filed Apr. 15, 2009) (submitting Request for Extension of Time to File Streamlined Plan Amendment); *see also* Letter from Jim Molloy, Chair, Region 10 (Georgia) Regional Planning Committee to Federal Communications Commission, WT Docket No. 02-55, PR Docket No. 92-189 (filed May 15, 2009) (submitting Streamlined Plan Amendment).

³ See Streamlined Plan Amendment from G. Edward Ryan, II, Chair, Region 20 (District of Columbia, Maryland and Northern Virginia) 800 MHz Regional Planning Committee to Federal Communications Commission, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, WT Docket No. 02-55, Gen. Docket No. 90-7 (filed Apr. 15, 2009).

⁴ See Letter from Rick Hessinger, Chair, Region 32 (North Dakota) 800 MHz Regional Planning Committee to David Furth, Acting Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, WT Docket No. 02-55, PR Docket No. 93-77 (filed Apr. 16, 2009) (submitting Streamlined Plan Amendment).

⁵ See Letter from Doug Frankhouser, Chair, Region 51 (Texas-Houston) 800 MHz Regional Planning Committee to David Furth, Acting Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, WT Docket No. 02-55, PR Docket No. 91-199 (filed Apr. 15, 2009) (submitting Streamlined Plan Amendment and

Background. The *800 MHz Report and Order* and subsequent orders in WT Docket No. 02-55 provide for reconfiguration of the 800 MHz band in order to eliminate harmful interference to public safety operations within the band.⁶ As part of band reconfiguration, in all non-border areas, the former NPSPAC band at 821-824/866-869 MHz has shifted fifteen megahertz lower in the band to 806-809/851-854 MHz, and NPSPAC incumbents are in the process of relocating from the old to the new band. As a consequence of 800 MHz band reconfiguration, all non-border 800 MHz RPCs⁷ are required to amend their regional plans currently on file with the Commission to reflect the fifteen-megahertz shift in the NPSPAC band from 821-824/866-869 MHz to 806-809/851-854 MHz.

The Commission's policies require the RPCs to prepare and submit regional plans for use of the NPSPAC band in their respective Public Safety Regions.⁸ The RPCs must also update their regional plans as needed to conform to changes in the nationwide NPSPAC band plan, and to reflect other changes in the disposition of NPSPAC channels within the region, technical requirements, or procedures for assigning channels.⁹

On February 10, 2009, the Bureau directed RPCs for non-border NPSPAC regions to file amendments to their 800 MHz regional plans by April 13, 2009, to bring them into conformity with the new 800 MHz band plan.¹⁰ Plan amendments were subject to a streamlined filing and approval procedure provided that they were limited to changes in frequency listings based on the new band plan. Alternatively, RPCs could elect to file amended regional plans by June 10, 2009, that combined rebanding-related changes with other modifications that were not rebanding-related, provided that they notified the Bureau by April 13, 2009 of their intent to do so.

Review of the Streamlined and Non-Streamlined Plan Amendments. Streamlined Regional Plan Amendments are limited to shifting channel assignments in the existing plan downward by fifteen megahertz. RPCs were allowed to submit such amendments without obtaining adjacent region concurrence, and were permitted to include administrative updates (*e.g.*, changes to RPC by-laws or membership) in their amendments under this process. The Bureau waived normal public notice and comment procedures for processing the streamlined amendments.

request for two-day extension of time to file).

⁶ See *Improving Public Safety Communications in the 800 MHz Band, Report and Order, Fifth Report and Order, Fourth Memorandum Opinion and Order, and Order*, 19 FCC Rcd 14969 (2004) (*800 MHz Report and Order*).

⁷ RPCs for all NPSPAC regions in Waves 1, 2, and 3, other than Region 19 (New England), must file amendments. NPSPAC Region 19 and all NPSPAC regions in Wave 4 are excluded from this requirement, and RPCs for these regions are not required to submit amended plans at this time. We will provide information on the plan amendment process for these regions at a later date, after the 800 MHz Transition Administrator determines replacement channel assignments for NPSPAC licensees in the U.S. - Canada and U.S. - Mexico border areas.

⁸ See 47 C.F.R. § 90.16 (no assignments will be made in spectrum designated for the Public Safety National Plan until a regional plan for the area has been accepted by the Commission); *see also* Development and Implementation of a Public Safety National Plan and Amendment of Part 90 to Establish Service Rules and Technical Standards for Use of the 821-824/866-869 MHz Bands by the Public Safety Services, Gen. Docket No. 87-112, *Report and Order*, 3 FCC Rcd 905 (1987) (*National Plan Report and Order*).

⁹ See *National Plan Report and Order*, 3 FCC Rcd at 911 ¶57.

¹⁰ See *Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau Provides Guidance on Amendment of 800 MHz Plans to Reflect 800 MHz reconfiguration and on Licensing of New NPSPAC Facilities in the 806-809/851-854 MHz Band*, WT Docket No. 02-55, *Public Notice*, 24 FCC Rcd 1364 (PSHSB 2009).

Non-Streamlined Regional Plan Amendments include other substantive modifications to regional plans, *e.g.*, changes to channel allocations within the region, technical parameters, or procedures for assigning channels. RPCs are required to obtain adjacent region concurrence to support such plan amendments prior to filing. After initial review, the Bureau will place non-streamlined amendments on public notice for comment prior to approval.

We have reviewed the Region 8, Region 10, Region 20, Region 32 and Region 51 Streamlined Plan Amendments and conclude, based on the information before us, that they comply with FCC rules and policies. In addition, both verbal and written requests for extensions of time to file plan Streamlined Amendments after the April 13, 2009 due date, are hereby granted *nunc pro tunc*.

Accordingly, pursuant to Section 4(i) of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 154(i), and Section 1.102(b) of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.102(b), the Region 8, Region 10, Region 20, Region 32, and Region 51 800 MHz NPSPAC Streamlined Plan Amendments are APPROVED.

This action is taken under delegated authority pursuant to Sections 0.191 and 0.392 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. §§ 0.191, 0.392.

Action by the Acting Chief, Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau.

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